

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Maxine Liebersbach, 50, Reedsburg, Wis., was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to five years of probation and ordered to pay restitution of \$46,160 for theft of government funds. Liebersbach pleaded guilty to this charge on January 28, 2008.

In 2005, an anonymous source contacted the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to report that Maxine Liebersbach was illegally receiving death pension benefits. A subsequent investigation revealed that Liebersbach had remarried twice since an application for benefits was filed with the VA. By willfully failing to notify the VA of her remarriages, Liebersbach received \$46,160 in death pension benefits to which she was not entitled. Liebersbach admitted to agents that she needed the money and that is why she did not report her marriages to the VA.

The charges against Liebersbach were the result of an investigation conducted by U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Inspector General, Criminal Investigations Division. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney David J. Reinhard.

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